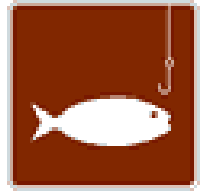


Fort Leonard Wood Fishing



Anglers are blessed with a diversity of fishing opportunities on Fort Leonard Wood.

There are ten streams with a total of 34 miles of permanent flow on the post; however, only the ten miles of the Big Piney River and 13 miles of Roubidoux Creek contain sport fisheries.



There are more than 200 impoundments equaling about 150 acres of permanent water on the post; however, a great majority are of a size, depth, or in a location, that precludes fish and fishing. There are 19 ponds and lakes equaling 95 acres that are actively managed for fishing. These range from 0.2 acre Littlewood Pond designated as a children-only fishing pond, to 40.6 acre Bloodland Lake, which features a floating fishing dock, picnic pavilion, permanent privy, and hard-surfaced parking area and trails, all of which are fully accessible to anglers with disabilities.

All of the fishing impoundments are accessible via surfaced roads, with most parking areas located within 50 feet of the water. While most ponds are small enough to be easily fished from the shoreline, graveled or concrete boat launching sites are provided at five of the larger lakes. Anglers may use their own boats without additional permit or charge, or they can rent boats and canoes from the Sportsmen's Center. Bank fishing areas are mowed and maintained at most impoundments during the fishing season. All impoundments have trash receptacles and information signboards with posted fishing regulations.

There are 75 species of fish found in the waters on or adjacent to Fort Leonard Wood, ranging from the diminutive rainbow darter and mosquitofish to lunker longnose gar and common carp. The most sought after sport fishes found on the post include, largemouth and smallmouth bass, rock bass (goggle-eye), black and white crappie, bluegill, green, redear and hybrid sunfish, and channel and flathead catfish. Some anglers also enjoy fishing for carp and a host of sucker species.



Fort Leonard Wood's fishing impoundments host about 1,800 anglers and more than 5,500 fishing trips, each year. The annual value and economic impact of these fisheries to anglers and the local economy is estimated to be more than three-quarters of a million dollars.

Anglers, ages 16 through 64, are required to possess a valid Missouri fishing permit and a FLW Sportsman's Permit in order fish in all streams and impoundments on Fort Leonard Wood, with the exception of the Big Piney River, where only a Missouri fishing permit is required. Both state and FLW permits may be purchased from the Sportsmen's Center.